

Further Statement by Miklos Szabo

In a further statement, this time to MTI, the repatriate ex-Deputy Miklos Szabo (Summary Part IIB, No.870, p.1) said that Gen. Langyel, the Austrian head of the "First Aid for Hungary" organisation, worked under the auspices of the US espionage service. "First Aid for Hungary" gave a financial grant to the Austrian "Caritas". The money came from great American capitalists.

The Free Europe Committee, Szabo said, was an organ of the State Department. Discussing "the activities of various Hungarian agents of the British and US Espionage Intelligence Services in Austria", Szabo "spoke of the activity of Matrai, and of the British Journalist Gedge." He also "reported on the special camps set up in Britain". The Italian Legation in Vienna, and the Italian Minister himself, maintained liaison with Gen. Kiraly's organisation.

Szabo said that in the spring of 1956, the Austrian Minister of the Interior had ordered the identity cards of Hungarian dissidents to be withdrawn. Despite repeated demands, his own identity papers had not been given back to him. Detectives from the Austrian Ministry of the Interior had kept emigres who had military papers under arrest and had forced them to make statements about life in Hungary. Several of these people had "disappeared" and it was said that they had been "handed over to West German and US spies."

Szabo also described "the debaucheries of young Hungarian men and women in the Austrian camps". Last January, the Tunisian President Bourguiba had complained to two members of the Hungarian Revolutionary Council about "the debaucheries of young Hungarian immigrants in Morocco and Algiers". Szabo had also "revealed the scandal of the recruitment of the Hungarian refugees to the Dominican Republic by the so-called General Kovacs". (MTI 24.10.57)

MAGYAR NEMZET (27 October 1957)

Miklos Szabo's New Exposures

Miklos Szabo, a former member of Parliament for the Smallholder's Party who returned home from the West, has made additional statements in connexion with his statement at a Press Conference.

He stated that the organization "First Aid for Hungary" was established in the U.S.A. Its chairman is Tibor Eckhardt and the financial foundation of the organization was laid by a great donation of the Vanderbilt family. The organization had around one million dollars at its disposal of which - according to information from leading emigrants - at the end of March there were still \$300,000 dollars to dispose of. From that money the different reactionary emigrant groups were supported.

The head of the "First Aid for Hungary" in Austria was General Lengyel, who was generally known among the emigrants as the leader of spy organizations. The organization was acting in Austria with the permission of the Austrian Ministry of Interior and the organization granted financial help to the "Austrian Charitas" organization.

Talking about the role of the "Hungarian Revolutionary Council" Szabo said: At the meetings of the Hungarian Revolutionary Council at Strasbourg the leaders discussed in confidential meetings whether the Council should accept support from the Committee of Free Europe. At these meetings it was stated that the Committee for Free Europe was an organ of the American State Department and that the acceptance of a support of the Committee for Free Europe could mean a compulsory acceptance of an American control, in other words it could mean a surrender of independence.

A proof for the Committee of Free Europe being an organ of the State Department is not only the statements at the Strasbourg Conference, but also letters and documents.

In connexion with Bela Kiraly the leaders of the emigration were often saying that Kiraly was received in America as old acquaintances used to be received. Kiraly himself has told his confidential friends, to Vidovics and to Sipos (editors of the paper "Nemzetor") that the secret weapons in the Pentagon were shown to him.

About the special camps in England, Szabo said that he has heard but he knows no concrete things about them. A person called Michael, a member of the Gehlen organization, stated that he was trained in England for intelligence work, for radio engineering and for parachute service. This training lasted several months. He was several times parachuted into Hungary and he was promised great sums for his parachute action. The money was "deposited in a bank" in his account. On one occasion, after he was nearly caught and hardly escaped, he refused to take up a new assignment; he was immediately dismissed and the money in his bank account was confiscated.

In the Fall of 1956 a cultural aid society was established in England. The society received 700.000 English pounds from the State and from private persons. Zoltan Kerenyi, a former film-director, became head of this group. From this money support was given to the Hungarian paper in London "Magyar Szo"

and to the emigrant organisation called "Hungarian Writers' Union Abroad".

The Hungarian Revolutionary Council" in Strasbourg received in December 1956 support to organize the Conference of the Council which was held between 5-7 January 1957. The French Catholic Party (MRP) gave a large sum, a yellow Trade Union once gave 500,000 and a second time 300,000 francs. The Paris office of the Council received one million francs support from the French Government in the Spring of 1957.

The Austrian Ministry of Interior ordered in the Spring of 1957 that all refugees had to give up all their personal papers. The reason was given that there is a trade going on in buying up the personal papers of the refugees. The police carried out investigations to establish the identity of persons who were in this trade. I have been asked by a police official of the political department, Mr. Hejkrlik - said Szabo - to help them to identify the buyers and to stop this trade. At the same time the refugees have told me that their personal papers are used by the police because the police either refuses to return them to the refugees or the documents were lost. I can prove it with letters that I have been asked by refugees to help them to get back their papers. I would like to add that I could not get back my own personal documents either. Should the Hungarian authorities demand the return of the personal documents of those refugees whose names are in my possession, I wonder how many documents could be returned by the Austrian authorities.

The interrogators of the Austrian Ministry of Interior kept in longer custody those refugees who knew about military matters and with mental pressure they tried to get information of military nature about the Hungarian Army. Some persons are still held in custody and some of them disappeared. Allegedly they have been handed over by the Austrian authorities to the German and American intelligence groups in West Germany.

In the youth camp at Hirtenberg there are 180 youngsters. The camp is supported by the Austrian Ministry of Interior, U.N. Commissioner for Refugees and by the organization "Save the Children".

Director of the camp is Dezso Peeri, the former Mayor of Sopron. His assistant Laszlo Varga was all the time on the alert. He had to use his physical strength to curb the youngsters who had beaten up their teachers. About the moral life of the youngsters there are whole legends known in Austria and Vienna. According to it young girls of 10-12 years of age are dragged away and violated. Varga told that the boys draw their knives at the smallest disagreement.

The moral situation of the Hungarian youngsters is catastrophic. The refugees were put in common rooms without regard to age or sex and they had their beds next to each other.

A great number of Hungarian youngsters - mostly girls - are treated for venereal diseases and even greater is the number of those who do not dare report their disease. It is known in Vienna that among the prostitutes on the

Kartnerstrasse and on the Graben, the majority consists of Hungarian women. The Austrian boys go to the camp in Brigitta-Spital to find cheap Hungarian girls. In the mid-town expressos in Vienna young Hungarian girls in flashy dresses are sitting the whole day long hunting after rich men.

According to Laszlo Bereczky there is a real white slave traffic in Vienna. Bereczky has noticed that girls whom he had known appear one day in new dresses and shortly after they disappear. They are sent to the East as dancers in cabarets.